

**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners’
Committee on Physician Assistants
January 7, 2005**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners’ Committee on Physician Assistants was held in the Cumberland Room located on the Ground Floor of the Cordell Hull State Office Building on January 7, 2005.

Members Present: Anne Arney, Consumer Member; Rory O’More, PA; Janet Johnson, OPA; Glen Alexander, PA; Nancy Parton, PA; and William Blalock, PA

Members Absent: Marcia Cole, PA

Staff Present: Rosemarie Otto; Executive Director; Robert J. Kraemer, Jr., Associate General Counsel; LaTonya Shelton, Administrator; Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager; Jerry Kosten, Rule Coordinator, and Denise Moran, Director of Investigation

Rory O’More, Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. The Chairman determined that a sufficient number of members were in attendance to constitute a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Janet Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2004 meeting. William Blalock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

The Committee reviewed the financial report which indicated a projected cumulative balance of \$173,955.00.

Disciplinary Report

The Committee reviewed the written report submitted by the disciplinary coordinator which indicated two licensees are being monitored and are in compliance.

Manager’s Report

Marsha Arnold reported that the activities that have transpired in the administrative office between October 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004 concerning Physician Assistants are as follows:

40 new applications, 35 new licenses, 88 mailed out renewals and 1 licensure reinstatement. The actual processing time of renewals in our office is 10 days. The actual processing time for new applications in our office is 82 days. The number of active licensees as of December 31, 2004 is 724.

Investigations Report

Denise Moran informed the committee that there are fourteen open complaints in the Bureau of Investigations. Mrs. Moran also trained and discussed with the Committee members the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA).

Ratification of New Licenses, Temporary Permits and Reinstatements

Glen Alexander made a motion to ratify the new licenses, temporary permits, and retirements. Nancy Parton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tennessee Professional Assistant Program (TNPAP)

Mr. Mike Harkreader read the report to the Committee concerning TNPAP. Statistics for the period of September through December 2004 TNPAP had a total of four (4) participants.

OGC Report

Mr. Kraemer informed the Committee that the Disciplinary Rule (03-1318) went into effect November 22, 2004 and that the Volunteer Practice Rule (04-1546) went to rule making hearing on December 21, 2004 and was ready for adoption at this board meeting. Mr. Kraemer also stated that there were two cases open pertaining to the Board of Medical Examiners' Committee on Physician Assistants.

General Discussion

Discuss and adopt the policy regarding failure to obtain Continuing Education Requirements. – Janet Johnson made a motion that the penalties for failure to meet CE requirements would be as follows: The physician assistants must pay \$20.00 for each hour that they are missing within 60 days. The physician assistants will have six months to make up any missing hours and they will need to add ten extra hours of Category I within the next two years. Upon completion of continuing education the physician assistants will submit the CEs to the Committee. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action. Anne Arney seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Review comment concerning Free Health Clinic and Volunteer Practice Requirements rules and conduct roll call vote. – Jerry Kosten reported that there was one comment for the rule making hearing held December 21, 2004 from John Williams of Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants. Mr. Williams addressed the Committee by supporting the suggestion that retired Physician Assistants should only have to obtain 15 hours yearly of continuing education instead of 100 hours every two years. William Blalock moved to require 20 hours of category I

continuing education annually and waive 30 hours of category II. Glen Alexander seconded the motion. Janet Johnson made a motion to adopt the same rule for Orthopedic Physician Assistants and William Blalock seconded the motion. Glen Alexander made a motion to adopt the rule as amended and Nancy Parton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was held and the vote passed unanimously.

Review, discuss, and consider proposed position statement regarding Physician Assistants and their supervising physicians ordering controlled substances and suggested forms for use. – Glen Alexander made a motion to adopt the position statement and William Blalock seconded the motion. Glen Alexander made a motion to adopt the suggested form and Anne Arney seconded the motion. The motions were carried unanimously.

Authorize substitution of TNPAP for TMF in any previous Order Modification referring licensees to TMF for contracts and/or advocacy. – Glen Alexander made a motion to authorize the substitution of TNPAP for TMF and Nancy Parton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ratify the renewal of Tennessee Nurses Foundation contract for fiscal year 2005-2006. – William Blalock made a motion to ratify the renewal of the contract for another year and Glen Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider authorization for a Rule Making Hearing: Mandatory Criminal Background checks for all new applicants. – Glen Alexander made a motion to authorize a rule making hearing and Janet Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

“Noteworthy” on the Internet

Policy regarding failure to obtain Continuing Education Requirements.

The next scheduled meeting is April 22, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in the Cumberland Room.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Approved this 22nd day of April, 2005 by the Committee on Physician Assistants.

Secretary

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